

SUMMARY

HA-187

Magnolia Methodist Church
21 Fort Hoyle Road
Magnolia, Maryland

This small frame church was built in 1888, on land donated by George W. Brown. It is the last 19th century non-residential building remaining in Magnolia. While not architecturally distinguished, it is important nonetheless for its role as an important gathering place in the "social" history of Magnolia. In 1981, its future is uncertain, since it faces either demolition or adaptive re-use.

MAGI #1301875608

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Magnolia Methodist Church

AND/OR COMMON

Magnolia Methodist Church

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

21 Fort Hoyle Road

CITY, TOWN
Magnolia,

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

___ VICINITY OF

STATE
MarylandCOUNTY
Harford**3 CLASSIFICATION****CATEGORY**

___DISTRICT

☒BUILDING(S)

___STRUCTURE

___SITE

___OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

___PUBLIC

☒PRIVATE

___BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___IN PROCESS

___BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

___OCCUPIED

☒UNOCCUPIED

___WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE☒YES: RESTRICTED

___YES: UNRESTRICTED

___NO

PRESENT USE

___AGRICULTURE

___MUSEUM

___COMMERCIAL

___PARK

___EDUCATIONAL

___PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___ENTERTAINMENT

☒RELIGIOUS

___GOVERNMENT

___SCIENTIFIC

___INDUSTRIAL

___TRANSPORTATION

___MILITARY

___OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Trustees of Presbury United Methodist Church

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

306 Edgewood Road

CITY, TOWN

Edgewood

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland 21040**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #: ALJ 62

Folio #: 83

STREET & NUMBER

40 South Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE
Maryland 21014**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

___FEDERAL ___STATE ___COUNTY ___LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

HA-187

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☒ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED


CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This one story frame church is located on the north side of Fort Hoyle Road in Magnolia, approximately one-quarter mile west of Magnolia Road (Md. Rt. 152).

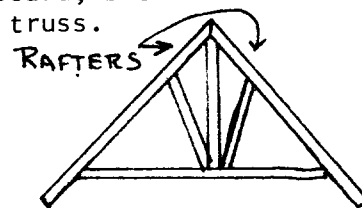
The gable roof structure faces s.e. and sits on a coursed rubble foundation 16" high. It measures 25'6" wide X 45' 2" long. (3 bays by 3 bays) with the ridge of the steeply pitched roof running parallel to the longer dimension. The roof is of modern materials and it overhangs the side wall 12". The rafter ends are concealed, and are trimmed with an ogee moulding. Exterior covering is 5" German siding attached with cut nails and there is a wooden watertable. There are 3 windows each on the northeast and south west sides and 2 each on the south east and north west facades. Windows are 24" X 89" 5/6 wooden double hung sash, with the upper sash in the form of a mitred arch. Each pane of glass is a different color - blue, yellow, green, purple

or red.  Exterior window trim is a 3 1/2" board with a large bead. The 10 windows all have pairs of full length louvred shutters (12 1/2" X 7' 8-1/2") that conform exactly to the shape of the mitred arch. These are hung on pintles.

At the southeast there is a central gable roofed entrance vestibule supported by concrete piers, and flanked by one window on each side. Directly above the vestibule is a circular wooden frame window (missing its glass) with muntins that define a quarter-foil. This vestibule is 8 1/2' wide and projects 4' from the main block. It contains a pair of 24" three tier six panel exterior doors under a plain five light transom. Inside the vestibule, the walls are finished with grooved 3 1/2" tongue and groove plank-ing fastened vertically with cut nails. The interior doorway into the church, is surmounted by a pentagonal transom containing 22-4 1/2" square panes of different colored glass, over a bead and reel moulding. The doorway is trimmed with the same casing used for the windows. There are indentations in the jamb where hinges for an earlier door, since removed, were fastened. The floor in the vestibule is of 2 1/2" planks.

The interior of the church is best described as a large open auditorium wherein the following was observed. All pews are gone, and the floor is of 4 1/2" tongue and groove planking. There is a 4' wainscot that is applied to the entire perimeter of the room. This consists of 3 1/2" vertical grooved planking topped by a 3" moulding. The windows are trimmed with a 6" beaded moulding, and a single cyma reversa piece underneath the 3/4" thick window apron. The circular window in the southeast wall is trimmed with a 5" moulding with a single large bead on one edge.

The interior walls above the wainscot and the trapezoidal ceiling are plaster over circular sawn lath attached with cut nails. Height of the walls from floor to where the ceiling angles inward is 8'2". The roof is seriously deteriorated at the northwest corner, and leaking water has caused the plaster ceiling to collapse revealing the roof framing. All materials are circular sawn. There is no ridge board, but the lumber is nailed between the rafters and ceiling joists forming a simple truss.



CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1888 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Magnolia Methodist Church is a typical late 19th century frame church, its form imitative of more complex and stylized Gothic Revival Churches. Architecturally, its most distinguishing features are the mitred arch windows on all elevations, the oculus over the entrance on the front facade, and the plain open belfry. Essentially, these are just fancy architectural elements applied to a gable roof frame rectangle. However, the church must have been the pride of the Magnolia residents when it was completed in 1888.

A life long Magnolia resident and oral informant, Blanche S. Fletcher (see HA-1570) was married in this church in 1927. She has photographs of plays and a "Tom Thumb Wedding" that were held at the church hall. The latter event is when the village children were dressed up in imitation of an adult wedding party. Mrs. Fletcher also reported that there were many suppers, ice cream festivals, box lunches, held at the church, as well as bible study sessions, Methodist conventions, and sermons preached by visiting Methodist ministers. Clearly the Magnolia Church was significant for the role it played in the social life of this rural village.

In 1981, the Magnolia Church is in deteriorating condition. It is the last non residential 19th century landmark left in the Village of Magnolia, which once had its own school, railroad station, blacksmith shop and store-post office (see HA-188). The future of the church building is uncertain, since it has been for sale for nearly 10 years with no takers. Its destruction would mean the loss of the last distinguishing building in what was once a busy crossroads village.

History

There has been Methodist worship activity in this area of Harford County since the mid-18th century. Services were first held at "Quiet Lodge", the home of Joseph Presbury on Gunpowder Neck (south of Magnolia, now in Edgewood Division of Aberdeen Proving Grounds). In the 1770's, a brick preaching house was constructed, called "Presbury's Preaching House" (both Quiet Lodge HA-15 and the Presbury Church, HA-375, are National Register sites). This structure was used until 1886 when it was abandoned by the congregation.

For two years, Magnolia's Methodists met in private homes. In 1888, Mr. George W. Brown, owner of the Magnolia General Store, donated land in the village of Magnolia for the site of the church. Building began on June 25, 1888, and the total construction cost was \$1,750.00. Archival research has not disclosed the source of any plans the builders might have used. The first service was held in September, 1888. The church was used until 1968, when the Methodist congregations at Magnolia and nearby Edgewood merged.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY (See Significance continuation Sheet #1)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"Presbury United Methodist Church 200th Anniversary Booklet" 1972 written by George
Interviews with Blanche Fletcher, 29 Fort Hoyle Road, Magnolia, Maryland

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Phillip R. Lord, Historic Site Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning

DATE

April, 1981

STREET & NUMBER

45 South Main Street

TELEPHONE

(301) 838-6000 ext. 207

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland 21014

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

At the rear of the church (north west) there is an 8'X5' platform 15" high in front of a 6'5" wide recess that is 3' 4" deep. This recess conforms to a small shed roof addition resting on a concrete foundation at the north west exterior of the building. An 18" brick flue rises above the ridge line from the juncture of the north west wall and the north west corner of this little addition. The interior entrance into the recess is through a round arch opening.

A modern bulkhead to a partial basement is under the second window of the southwest elevation.

There is a square lantern stradling the ridge of the roof at the southeast. It rises about 5-6' above the ridge and has mitred arch openings on all four sides, 8 block modillions supporting a plain cornice and a hipped roof. A 6X6 post topped with pyramidal cut projects from the apex of the lanterns roof.

To the West (rear) of the church is a modern one story church hall built of concrete block. For a time, following the closing of the Magnolia Store (HA-188) in 1968, this structure was used as a post office. This concrete block building is the second church hall, it being a replacement for an earlier frame structure. It was in this first hall that many of the events related by Blanche Fletcher took place. The present church hall is in deteriorating condition.

A photo reveals that the vestibule was added later, the original approach having been four steps and a small landing.

Statement of Significance Continuation Sheet #1

-187

Magnolia Methodist Church
21 Fort Hoyle Road
Magnolia, Maryland

The United "Presbury" congregation used the 19th century frame church in Edgewood (built 1898) until a modern brick structure in Edgewood was completed in 1969.

MAGNOLIA

The growth of the Village of Magnolia is clearly illustrated by the following Maps:

1858 - Jennings & Herrick Map of Harford County

1878 - Martenet Map of Harford County

1904 - Maryland Geological Survey of Harford County Geological Formations

The 1858 Map shows 3 structures north of the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore R.R. tracks, near the junction with the road leading south into the Gunpowder Neck (now Edgewood - Aberdeen Proving Ground). The only label for these buildings is "C.F. Smith Depot and P.O. ". South of the tracks is a small area labeled "Magnolia Grove".

The 1878 Map reflects 20 years of growth in and around Magnolia. There is a school and James Carr & Harrison Swift, who were leasing ground from George W. Brown are indicated. Oddly enough, George Brown is noted only once as owning a structure south of the R.R. tracks.

The 1904 Map shows Magnolia in its most developed form. The houses near the intersection of Fort Hoyle Rd. and Magnolia Rd. (Md. 152) are all located. In 1917, the U.S. Government took over the area south of the R.R. tracks for a military reservation but this helped increase the activity in Magnolia as the main route into the installation passed through Magnolia. Not until 1943, when the R.R. station was demolished, and the military gate moved to northeast of the village did Magnolia's decline begin.

MAGNOLIA METHODIST CHURCH

Title Search

HA-187

Tax Map 69 Parcel 39 .6 acre

1. ALJ 63/83 May 14, 1888
Grantor: George W. and Mary Brown
Grantee: The Magnolia Methodist Episcopal Church of Harford County
Sum: \$1.00
Acreage: Two Roads and 17 square perches
2. Prior Deed ALJ 60/207 March 3, 1888
"To Edward Sweeting, ? Chapman, James Rollins, J. Westerill, and John Sweeting, the Trustees of Magnolia Methodist Episcopal Church of Harford County". This deed was found to be defective because the trustees had never incorporated.
ALJ-63/83 contained the following clause -- that there shall be "an agreement between parties that the premises and any buildings standing or to be constructed, shall not be used as a place of worship for colored people." Interestingly enough, the former place of worship for the Magnolia Methodist Congregation, Presbury Church or Gunpowder Meeting House (HA-387) was sold to Blacks in 1890.
The ground donated by George W. Brown was acquired in 1869 from Benjamin Fleury Deed ALJ 23/32.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORMMD. HISTORICAL TRUST
BOX 1704

ANNAPOLIS, MD. 21404 (Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

DATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME	
COMMON:	Magnolia Methodist Church
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: North side - Fort Hoyle Road about 0.2 mi west of			
CITY OR TOWN: Magnolia Mountain Road.			
STATE Maryland	COOE	COUNTY: Harford	COOE

3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNERS NAME: Trustees of the Presbury			
STREET AND NUMBER: United Methodist Church			
CITY OR TOWN: Magnolia	STATE: Maryland	COOE	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT			
STREET AND NUMBER: HARFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE 40 S. MAIN ST.			
CITY OR TOWN: BEL AIR	STATE: MARYLAND	COOE	
APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:			

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY:			
DATE OF SURVEY: Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/>			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	COOE	

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Frame Church, 3 windows on each side,
two windows and a door facing east, the
entrance enclosed. A small belfry is over
the entrance-end of the ridgepole which
runs east-west.

A simple rose window is on the entrance.
Other windows are peaked
with five lights over six.
shutters fit frame →



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian ☐16th Century ☐18th Century ☐20th Century ☐15th Century ☐17th Century ☐19th Century ☒

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

dedicated 9 Sept. 1888

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal ☐Education ☐Political ☐Urban Planning ☐Prehistoric ☐Engineering ☐Religion/Philosophy ☒Other (Specify) ☐Historic ☐Industry ☐Science ☐Agriculture ☐Invention ☐Sculpture ☐Art ☐Landscape ☐Social/Humanitarian ☐Commerce ☐Architecture ☐Theater ☐Communications ☐Literature ☐Transportation ☐Conservation ☐Military ☐Music ☐

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

The congregation of Pier church was one
 part of a split that caused the 1st Mt
 Methodist Church ^{to be} ~~now~~ abandoned; ^{that was built in 1773 - now} on Edgewood
 Arsenal property. Built in 1888, ~~this~~ was
 used until December 1967 when the
 church merged again with Edgewood, since
 moved into a vast new building on Edgewood
 road.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

*Consecration Directory, Rosbury United Methodist Church
806 Edgewood Road, Edgewood, Md 21040*

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE			
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"		
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"		
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"		
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"		

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: JEAN S. EWING		
ORGANIZATION MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST	DATE	
STREET AND NUMBER: 50 STATE CIRCLE		
CITY OR TOWN: ANNAPOLIS	STATE MARYLAND	CODE

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

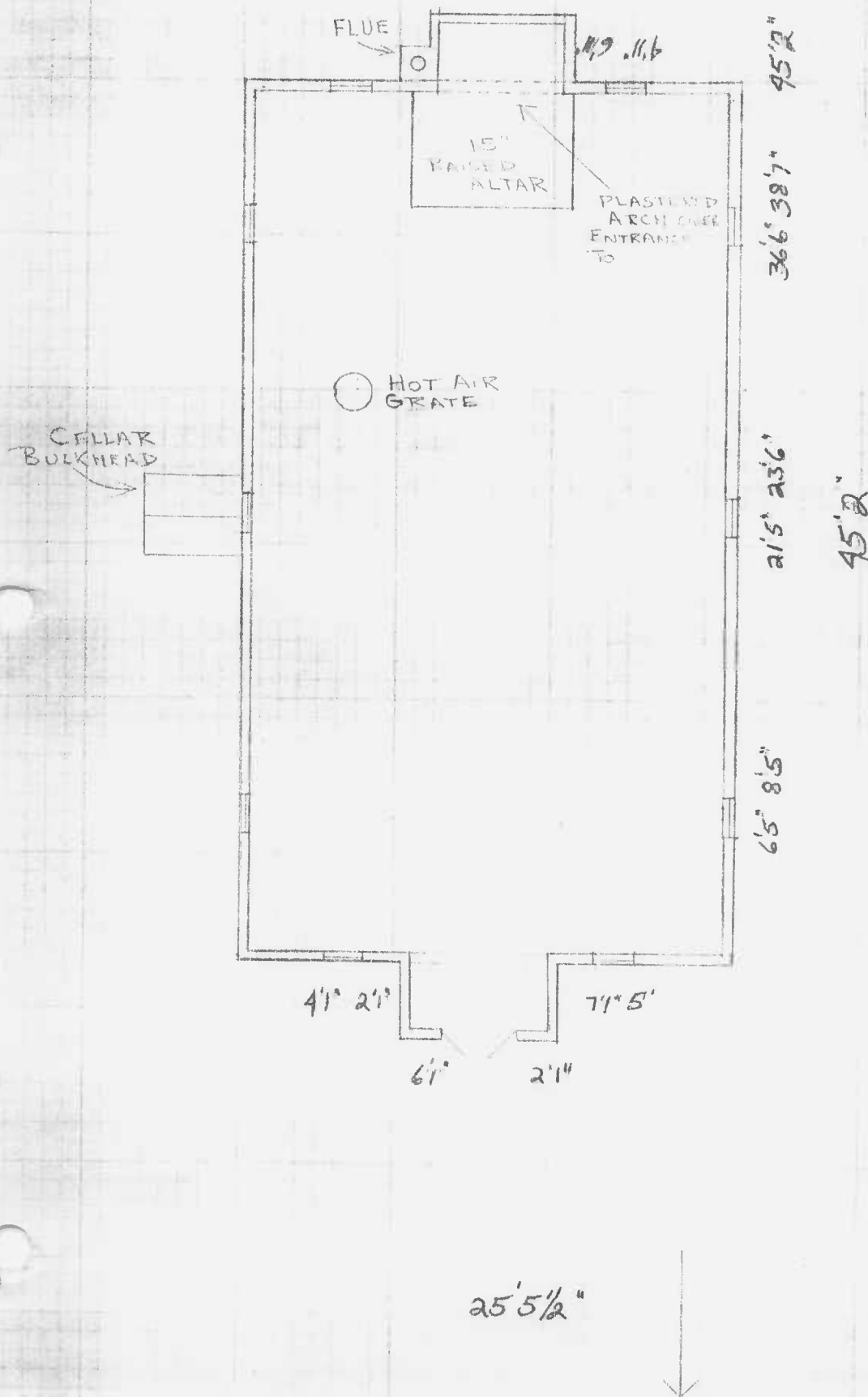
SEE INSTRUCTIONS

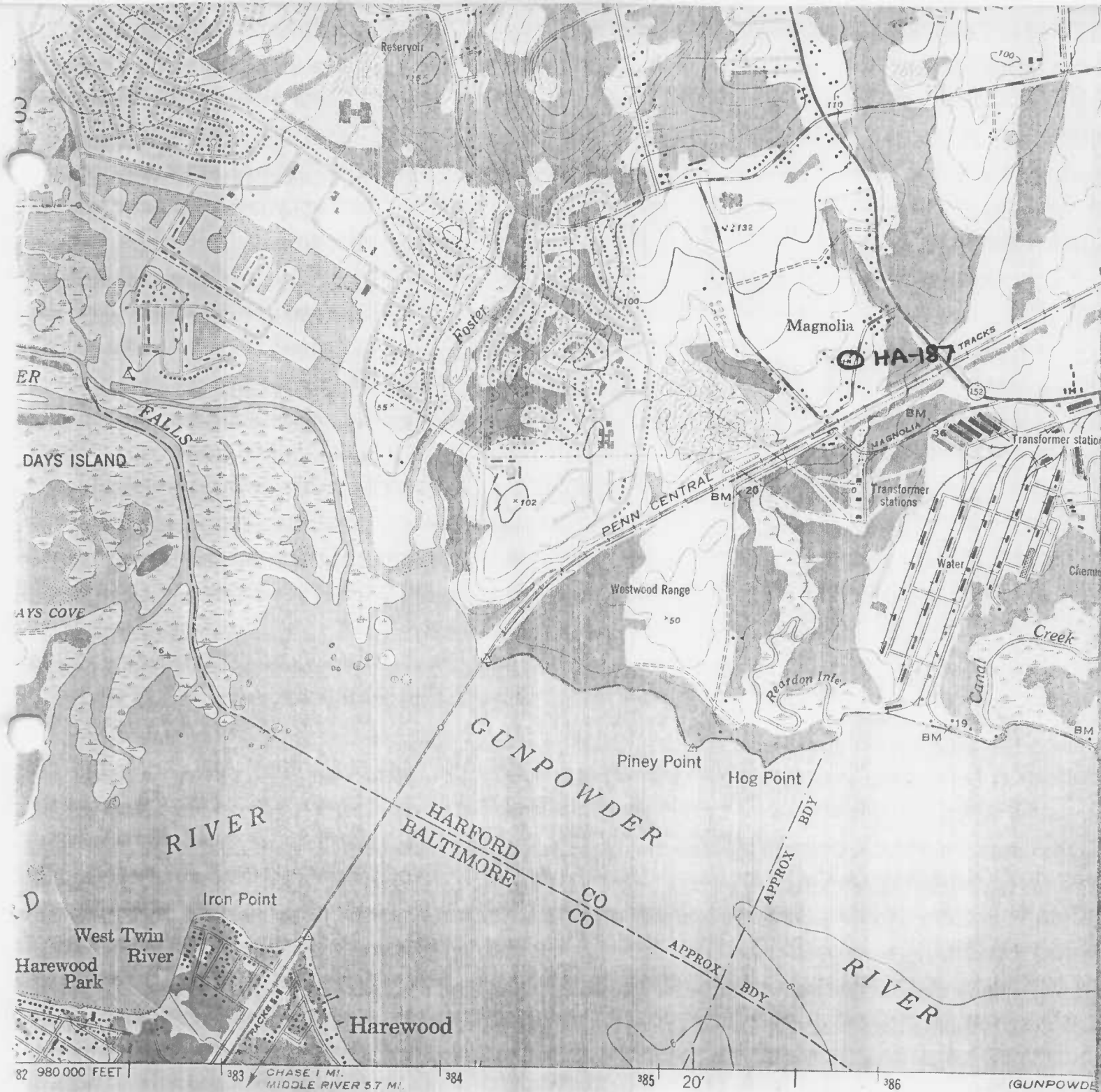
BY Phord DATE 11/80
CHKD. BY _____ DATE _____

SUBJECT MAGNOLIA METHODIST
CHURCH
21 FORT HOYLE RD.

HA-187

SHEET NO. _____ OF _____
JOB NO. _____



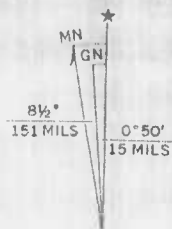


e Army Map Service
 from USC&GS surveys
 civil use by the Geological Survey
 &GS, CE, and USGS

n aerial photographs by multiplex methods
 phs taken 1947. Field check 1949

ction. 1927 North American datum
 ased on Maryland coordinate system
 al Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
 in blue

s made between dwellings, barns,
 d industrial buildings



UTM GRID AND 1974 MAGNETIC NORTH
 DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

EDGEWOOD QUADRANGLE 7.5 MINUTE SERIES

CONTOUR INTER
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FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SU
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS A



HA=187

Magnolia Methodist Church
Magnolia, Md.
Phillip R. Lord 4/81
Southeast



HA-187

Magnolia Methodist Church

Magnolia, Md.

Phillip R. Lord

4/81

South

86